

March 21, 1980 Aurora Oropeza Trini Torrez Laurie Bretz

Both ladies grew up in Argentine.

Laurie Could you tell me when you were born

Aurora 1916, Februray the 7th

Laurie And what was it like growing up in Argentine

Aurora In consul grove, Kansas

Laurie When did you move to Kansas City? When did you come to Kansas City?

Aurora My sister Esther was born there too, in 1917, and we left about three months later, in 1917, then we came to Argentine.

Laurie You was a little girl when you came to Argentine

Aurora I think when we first came here, we must of lived on South 27th street, the exact address I don't know, but I know it was across of the street from the Santa Fe office. And the building is still there, not the new office,

Trini It's what they call Viva Argentina, now

Laurie Is it where they have the

Trini Those new development, urban renewal has gone through there.

Laurie And the Santa Fe office was on the south 27th street,, Is it still there?

Laurie What kind of work did your father do? He worked for Sant Fe, didn't he?

Aurora He worked for the Santa railroad, what he did at first,

I don't know, probably in the tracks, but later own he was in what they called the round house, thats where they kept the engeens in repair, so just before he was killed he worked there for quite a few years.

Laurie And how was he killed?

Aurora I forget, but it must of been in 1936.

Laurie When were you born, Trina

Trina 1922

Aurora 1936, so thats 19 years ago.

Laurie You were born in 1922, so you were

Trina I was about 14 when he was killed

Laurie Do you remember how he was killed?

Trina How was my dad killed?

Aurora How was he killed? It was in 1936. Lois and I graduated from high school, so as a treat to us he gave us a trip to Mexico, with one of my teachers. In fact they had an article in the silver city about Ms. Shammy, she wanted to go to Mexico very bad with some one that spoke Spanish, or rather with us, so in 1930, my father said that you could go, so she went with us, and she was killed there, no she wasn't killed there, she died there, she had a liver disease of some sort, so it was of the liver. So she died there and soon after that my father took off to bring us back in late August so he never got there, because he was killed on the way.

Laurie How was he killed, do you know Trina,

Aurora She was in Kansas City, Lois and I and another sister went to Mexico with this teacher, so we traveled around Mexico City, we went to Toscoe, and Toluca, and my youngest uncle was there in Mexico City, he use to be a of the Mexican automobile society, and there they call it ama, and here they call it aaa, so he use to be president of, well the name is asistacion americana de automoviles, so he was in Mexico city, so he took us around to show us historical

places, he showed us the pyramids in Telitajuan, I don't know how to spell it, and we went to Toscoe, the silver city, and

Laurie Toscoe, is that where they mine the silver that they bring here?

Aurora Toscoe is called the silver city, and I think that's where the mines are too. So they make the silver jewelry and they send it to Mexico City, because I bought some silver in Mexico City, that after I went to Toscoe I saw the very same design in Toscoe, so it's the silver city, and we went to see the famous buildings in Toscoe City, one of them was the house ... Toluca was one of the famous cities, then we went to Tongjuacicolo? where my family comes from, and this preacher died there, so then when my father heard about it, he took off right away, and he stopped in it's one of the big cities there. So he stopped to visit his cousin, and his cousin had a soap factory there in Torrion? When we went to Mexico, we stopped in Torrion first to see my father's cousin, and in fact I used to have pictures of them, Then from Torrion, we went to Mexico City. Then we went to Tongjuancicolo? And I say my exteacher died there, then my father took off and he stop in Torrion, well in those days, 1936, he was a little leary about conditions in Mexico.

Laurie Why?

Aurora Well the government was a little unstable. And even now days, you have to be careful, because too many poor people. So he stop by in Torrion and left what little money he had with him, except what he needed. And then he went on to Tongjuancicolo, while there were several stop overs, one was in Salia, he stopped there and had lunch, while he was having lunch, the friends had took off, so then he ran out and tried to board the train and of course he fell down and was crushed, then I found out about this later, because we didn't know a thing about it, we waited weeks and weeks, we called my mother, and she went down to see what had happened, so then my uncle who was in Mexico City, my youngest brother, he starting asking around, had an add in the paper, in the Mexico City paper, asked the different big cities on the way, and then, I thing that the Kansas City paper had an article in the paper too, about my father being lost, so then somebody in Irapuato noticed the add, and they wrote my uncle in Mexico City, so then my mother who was in Torrion at, the same time went to Irapuato to check what had happened and why and we were notified about his death and all that, that's why I say that the government was so unsettled. That they didn't bother to notify us. He had his papers, his birth certificate, his railroad pass, and all his papers he needed to go back and forth. And the papers were still there, when my mother got there, they gave her the papers, the city officials gave her the papers which were bloody of course, and I kept them for a while Trini. Trini And I went with her then with my mother, they were still there.

Aurora And so as I say my mother was still in Torrion then, so then she went to Irapuato and talked to this man so he told her, that he didn't want anybody to know that he had talk to the family because he was affraid. of his job I suppose, so she went to the cemetary and by then only a matter of a month or so, she couldn't find where he had been buried. They just told her approximately where he was buried and that's it. But later own about eight years ago I found out more of the story of his death. When I went to see my aunt in Sandiago, she was telling me that when he died they announced at the railroad station if anybody knew an Augustine Orapeza? Evidently no body knew him. But it was funny that somebody knew his wife, but evidently they didn't know her married name. Because you don't realize that in Spanish countries its a custom for a women to keep their madden name. Like my mother, she was know

as Herlinda Nyia all her life and then later own she was changed over to Orpeza, much later own. So this man.... So later own he was telling my aunt about the incident, because he was there, and he happened to be married to a relative. He was married to Hossaphina Cavaerto, a cousin of my mother, so he only knew my mothers name.

Laurie So he didn't know that

Aurora So he said that they had announced the death of my father if anybody knew him, but nobody did. So he was the one that had told us how he had died, and everything.

Laurie So how old were you when your father died?

Aurora Twenty.

Laurie Twenty; how old were you Trina?

Trini I was 14.

Laurie How many other brothers and sisters did you have?

Trini We're seven all together. Five girls and two boys I was next to the youngest.

Laurie Then who supported the family after your father died?

Trini Who supported the family, my brother got a job with Santa fe.

Laurie Adolfo, right.

Aurora Well, actually what little money my father had saved was gone, trying to find him, so when we came back, my mother did the best she could, because my father used to have a garden, and then my brother took over and took care of the garden, and we helped him, and sometimes my aunt, who is still living, she would give my mother money for groceries, so we managed, we didn't starve or anything, but we managed.

Trini But didn't the Santa Fe give my brother my fathers job?

Aurora But not right away.

Trini Not right away.

Aurora And then it goes of the fact that my father had worked so many years on the railroad and Frank got a job with the railroad.

Trini And no social security when he was killed because that was in 19

Laurie So when did you start going to college,

Trini When did you go to college, you had to work first didn't you?

Aurora Right after we came back, Lois went into nursing, my father had paid tuition. So then she went to nursing, she got help.

Trini Where did she go to nursing?

Aurora At KU Medical Center, so then when we came back I started looking for a job,

Laurie Had you graduated from the Argentine High?

Trini Had you graduated from Argentine High School? From where?

Aurora I was 20

Laurie Did you graduate from Argentine High School? And what year did you graduate?

Aurora In 1936.

Laurie That was right after, a couple of years after Lucy Alvarado and Jessie Alvarado graduated themselves.

Trini Lucy and Jessie Alvarado, what year did they graduate before you graduated?

Aurora Yes, do you know them.

Laurie So, what was it like going to high school then?

Trini What was it like going to high school?

Aurora What was it like, in High school, well what do you mean.

Laurie Did you feel a lot of discrimination, from the teachers or any of the students there?

Trini Did you feel any discrimination from the teachers?

Aurora Well, yes and no, in a way yes, not very often but one day, I can't remember any of the students, we didn't have anything to do with them practically,

Laurie Why not?

Aurora We just said hello, but having friends in high school, I don't remember one single one. As far as grades were concerned, I did very well, most of the teachers were pretty reasonable and fair. Except one,

Trini Which was the one?

Aurora My chemistry teacher, Mr. Shell, did you know him?

Trini No, he was there a lot of years, because he

Aurora He was very nice, and in fact when I took chemistry I guess he liked me, not personally, but he liked my work, so he was trying to encourage me to take physics. But the principal said no, in those days girls didn't take chemistry, or were interested in chemistry, or what would I do in physics, so he talked me out of it, and it's true that there were no girls in physics, even though my chemistry teacher wanted me to take physics. Because I did so well in chemistry he thought I would do well in science. In fact it's funny when I was in chemistry I've always been a quite silent person, and a lot of time when he asked me questions I would say I didn't know because I was embarrassed to get up and give the answer, or if we had to give a talk on certain subjects I wasn't ready, but he knew I was ready, but

Aurora I couldn't sometimes.

Laurie But it seems like you have lived your life quite differently even though you don't speak English

Aurora But I still got a good grade. And it was funny how the students wouldn't talk to us, but there was a nice looking boy sitting right across from me he sat exactly across from me. So one time the teacher asked me a certain question and I answered it, and he looked at me as soon as he looked at me he said "gee whiz I didn't know you were that smart". But that was the only time he talked to me, but before that he would simply ignore me, like they all did, but if you knew a little bit then they I guess they had more respect for you.

Laurie Why did they ignore you?

Aurora I don't know.

Laurie How did that make you feel?

Aurora So instead of taking physics, he made me take cooking. So it got around by telling me that I could take second year cooking. I took second year cooking. Also sewing, I did alright in sewing. I didn't like the teachers too well. So then some times when she would let me take some of my work to finish at home, the students liked my work, so one of the girls asked me if I would make button holes for her and she would pay me. And then other girls asked me to do the same thing, they had an article in the school paper. Who has the button. So in sewing class I was a button expert. That was funny.

Laurie So Aurora, how was it that you got to go to college?

Aurora And in English I did alright as far as grammar, in math I did alright, and in art, I took art. Mrs. Graves used to be my first grade teacher, first and second grade teacher. And she has always kept in touch with the family, so I was telling Mrs. Graves about why I had decided not

to follow. The first year of high school I took art. So there were two students who were good in art. Myself and another girl, so anyway she gave us projects and she complimented my work and all that, but... Then one time I made a sketch of my sister-in-laws and colored it in crayon, so I gave that to her, she couldn't believe it, she called my sister to see if the sketch was like my sisters, she told us that's all right look at you

Aurora so then she like the sketch, but she would never give me a good grade.

Laurie Why not?

Aurora This other girl was in a band, so I said that's it.

Laurie How did that make you feel?

Aurora Well, I don't know, I guess I was sort of insulted or something, that she appreciated my work but it wasn't good enough for a good grade. And yet when I was in grade school if I told you. So this I never forget then the second year I said whats the of taking art with a teacher like that. So she never gave me a good grade, and never encouraged me, so I never took art again for the following two years, she would always ask me "why didn't you take art today , or this year" I said "what's the use", I don't know if she got the message or not, "I said what's the use of taking art, if I don't get a decent grade from you. So then when I did I had all these water colors and sketches that I had made when I was in grade school, and high school, and when I went to art school, so then I was all upset, "Whats the point of fighting City Hall if I'm not going to get anyplace. So I tore everything up. I had a water color of George Washington, in his horse, so I tore everything up except this one, and evidently my mother had this one. And I had a sketch of Connie, you know, because Connie was one of my nice looking cousins, I had a beautiful sketch of her, and I tore everything up.

Laurie Tell me about how it is that you went to college?

Aurora So then after high school of course we didn't have any money, because my father was dead. If he had been alive he would of helped me, because he stroggeld to send me to high School that summer, then after I graduated from grade school, I wanted to go to high school but he couldn't afford it. So I felt so bad, I wouldn't eat I tried to get sick I've always been sort of a weakling physically, so I tried to get sick, because I wouldn't eat.

Laurie Because you saved the money to go to school?

Aurora Yes.

Laurie Why weren't you eating?

Aurora Because I wanted to go to high school, and my father couldn't afford it. So then my mother said how about if we send you to art school. You know seven children and working on the railroad, so then my mother said the grade school teacher was always pushing me to go to high school. And Mrs. Graves, in fact I thing I was one of the first to go to high school. So then my mother said if you want to go to high school, you are going to have to start eating, because you are not going to go like that. So then I said, well I can't have everything so I started eating and I when I was upset I wouldn't eat like most children, so I started to eat and went on to high school, and I struggled through high school as far as I used to walk all the way You know that bridge across in Argentine, we had to cross that bridge

Laurie The 26th Street bridge?

Aurora We had to cross that bridge.

Trina It was another bridge that went all across the tracks, it was a long way, from north Argentine clear across the high school where it started.

Laurie So where was the old bridge at?

Trina Right through the tracks, it was like an overpass,

Laurie Like on what street, or close to what street?

Trina The bridge was close to south 24th Street, wasn't it, the bridge we used to cross and go to high school?

Aurora There were two bridges that . The one that is still open. And there is another one that's partly opened, but during the flood it was broken down, it was just a walking bridge that use to go from Argentine Blvd. to 26th Street. So to us it was easier to take the bridge from 26th . The bridge starts on 26th Street and then south on Strong, the one that's still used. It was a long way.

Trina How long was it?

Aurora I don't know, it would take us about 20 minutes, or a half hour. We had to get up real early in the morning and walk,

Laurie So how did you get the money to go to college?

Aurora Well, as I say after high school I went to Jr. College, in 1936 they had NYA.

Laurie What's that?

Aurora National Youth Administration. That was to help college students. I went one year to Jr. College, so what I did I worked for the NYA and I worked with a Spanish teacher, helping her grade papers. I was taking Spanish since I had my Spanish background, because when I was in Mexico two years, I went to school there. I think it was 1924, I was there from 1924 to 1926, My mother went there with the children, so we could go to school there, and I went to school there for two years. My mother with the seven children went to Mexico in 1924.

Laurie And you to Trina?

Aurora She was young, about 2 years old. I was about 8, and when we came back in 26, I was 10, so I was there 2 years and went to school two years, so of course I had my Spanish background, so when I went to Jr. College I took Spanish, and that's what I used to do to earn my NYA money and help the Spanish teacher. So I did the grading for her. So that helped my expenses, and of course I didn't have too many expenses, really, just the bus fair, and my clothes that was it, so I went one year to jr. college. Then I started the second year at jr. college and couldn't make it financially, the first year in college an other source of money was when I was in high school the DAR gave us scholarships, and of course I applied for it-but I didn't get it. So the girl that got the scholarship to go to Jr. College didn't finish, she went one week, so Mrs. Graves attempted to help, she so Mrs. Graves came along and said why not have that scholarship transferred to you, it should of been yours in the first place. Because you had better grades than the girl that got it,

Trina What is DAR?

Aurora Daughters of the American Revolution.

Laurie Why wouldn't they give the scholarship to you?

Aurora Because I was mexican. Speaking of bias in high school, there is another bias in high that Mrs. Graves and Trini when I graduated from high school, or wanted to graduate, in spite of the fact that I didn't get good grades from my art teacher, I still was the second highest I got 10%, so in high school I was second. So then as a 10% students they would pick out so many for the National scholastics society, so my sister was bottom 30, she was number 30, so the last year that I was in high school, as a senior, my sister said "I bet you anything that you could apple

polish your way and do anything you want to more than you can with what you know or your grade", so

Aurora she was 30 down and I was second, so the last year she was in grade school, she took latin, she took latin after I did, so she could use a lot of my work. So she went after the latin teacher, Mrs. McCormick, I remember her I had nothing against her, so then Lois, she has always been a big brown noiser, always, she had the personality, I didn't. I was the shy, nobody knew that I knew anything because I didn't talk, even my grandfather. So I just did my work, and got the grades, thats it. So then Lois said I'll bet you anything, that If I would polish my way through with one person, I would get a national scholarship, she got it.

Laurie She got it but you didn't.

Aurora So my sister, I have to give her credit for this, she went to the principal and told him that "my sister deserves it more than I did, why didn't she get it". Well we can't have two sisters with the same award, thats what he told my sister. Mrs. Graves again went to the principal, she said thats not fair that Aurora has the grades and she's the smarter one of the two, and she doesn't get it, why. So the principal said, "I didn't know" The principal said "Mrs. Graves we can't have two Mexicans on the have the same award". Isn't it a disgrace to have two mexicans get the same award. But why did you give it to Lois, "Because she has And her teachers told her that the only person that was backing her was Ms. McCormick. So even though I had the better grades in Latin, Ms. McCormick still wasn't backing me.

Laurie Well the thing is as many people who qualified for that should be able to get it, not just one Mexican or two Mexicans, or whatever.

Trina Thats it. Tell Laurie about the sewing situation.

Aurora When I was in high school, I used to have sewing contest, I think it was sponsored by the Kansas City, Kansan. It might be wrong but I think it was. But my first year I took sewing and entered the contest, I designed my own outfit, so my sister Lois said you know what was wrong with you, you were very shy. So Lois said the only reason you didn't get it because you were too shy. Well so the following year Lois took sewing, she entered the contest, she use to bring her project home and I would help her. I would help her with the difficult problems.

She got first prize. But see she had the personality.

That's what my sister has always said, its true even today, If you have the personality you can make it, if you don't.

Laurie Well tell me about your school and your career, be cause you certainly made something.

Aurora Well, I don't bring a grouge all of those things I can get, to which I feel wasn't that important. I think when I worked I was satisfied with my work, my boss was satisfied with it,

Laurie It must have been pretty hard for you to go to school, and scrape up the money all of the time.

Trina How did you get back to college?

Aurora So then Mrs. Graves and Mrs. Featherson were always pushing our family or the girls, so then with the depression I finished Jr. College, I didn't finish but I dropped out because I couldn't afford it. So then Mrs. Featherson would say that you are too shy to go out looking for a job, so she went with me. And she said you know, since you're good at sewing, why don't we try the tailor shop.

So we tried the tailor shops and one of them hired me. And I worked with him for three years,

saved my money and I also helped my sister who was in nursing. So Lois use to say, I used to make her clothes, she was to be a bridesmaid for one of her roommates in college, in nursing, so I made her clothes, and I made the brides wedding dress. And then I made Lois's. As I say I use to help Lois when I was working in the tailor shop, making her clothes and financially, then she graduated and she always kept saying she would help me when I went to school. Then Lois was out of nursing training for one year and was already working, so then Mrs. Graves Trina Where was Lois working?

Aurora She worked several places, she worked for the TV society, as a public nurse, and she worked at KU Medical Center I thing that was her first job. Then a public nurse for the TV society, and then after that she joined the service. She jointed the air force. So in the meantime she got Mrs. Graves and the two of them came over my house one day and said "Aurora you always wanted to go to KU, why don't you try, plan to go now. So I said "Well I don't know if I could afford it", so my sister and Mrs. Graves said well Socorro can help you, or your sister, if you can make it the first year, then she will help you the rest. So I started going to KU in the spring semester, in February. Right after Pearl Harbor. So that first semester I paid my way. It wasn't too expensive in those days, because I think tuition was \$50.00 per semester for a years stay. And then I was living in the rooming house next to the University which wasn't very expensive, I don't exactly remember if I was working the first semester or not, but I know that the rest of the time I was that was when my sister helped me. I worked in a cafeteria, so then I got by the first semester, since I had three years to go I wanted to go through, so I had to figure out some way to work in and make my credit for 2 1/2 years, so during the war they had summer courses almost all summer long. They had a five or six week course and they had a 10 week course all summer. I think the first time I did'nt stay there. So the first semester was in Spring, I came home, and the following year I went back with ray sisters help with tuition and books and then I started working. I worked for all my meals,

Laurie So you could eat right?

Aurora Then I was working some nights, that one semester I got sick, I started to get sick and my grades started to suffer, so I said well, I have to do one of two things, so then I cut down my working hours, I use to get up at 6 in the morning, work in the cafeteria until 8 and then work in the evenings, so I had very little time to study but even then I still worked part time- in the cafeteria my whole 2 1/2 years. The last summer I was there I stayed in school all summer and I know of one course that I took was algebra, college algebra one sememester. We were there from 7;30 until 2. But we had a break and fortuniatly alegbra is one of my easiest subjects, so I had college algebra one summer, and I had enough credits one summer to make up for it. I graduated in 1944.

Laurie So what did you get your degree in? Was it

Aurora Major of Art I was going to major in chemistry, but I felt I wasn't doing too well in chemistry.

Laurie So where did you work after you got out of college?

Aurora Well after I graduated from college I took nursing at KU Medical Center. And of course to be accepted there you had to make the grades, and so I didn't have any problem getting in. So I went to KU for one year, and didn't pay too much, and because it was the war, they had what you call a Kelog scholarship for tecnologist. I think its sponsored by the Government, so I applied for it and I got it.

Laurie So where did you work after you finished with your schooling?

Aurora So after I finished I worked for a few months there at the KU Medical Center, but I didn't want to stay there for one reason, I was working in hematology (?) which I don't care too much for and number one, then I was working in the evening shift, which I don't like, so I started looking for a job, and applied at Lawrence Memorial Hospital in Lawrence Kansas. And a funny thing is that the Methologist in charge of the Department at Lawrence Memorial' was the dean of the school of Methology or that section. Dr. Knoble, no is was Dr. Sherwood, Dr. Sherwood was in charge of the hospital And he knew me because I was a student with him at KU. As soon as he heard that I was looking for a job, he asked me to take the job at Lawrence Memorial. but he wanted me to take a training in because in a small hospital the same technician had to do xrays, and of course xray technicians had too have two years of training at KU Medical Center, so I couldn't do that, so he talked to the radiologist and he would just give me sort of a review course or something like like for one month, which I did, so I was in Xray at KU Medical Center for one month and they don't usually do that, and since then they refused to do it. So they did it with me. When I went to Lawrence Memorial I had to do Xray, and it came in handy because in other hospitals that I worked with I did Xray to.

Laurie So what was it like, working in the hospitals like that?

Trina What was it like working in the hospital like that?

Aurora I don't know what you mean?

Laurie Was it real hard work?

Aurora Not really, well you know with Xray not too much technical, just so you have the idea of whats going on. Its like photography, you have to know about your lights, the degree of lights, solutions, so I got all that, which also helped me a little in photography. But Xray isn't that difficult In the laboratory in those days wasn't too difficult. And most of the work consisted of humantology very little Biology, but still enough too get by, very chemistry, mostly sugar just a few chemistries. Microbiology, so it wasn't very difficult

Laurie So you started working in the hospital in about 45?

Aurora Yes

Laurie And how long did you work?

Aurora I worked at Lawrence Memorial about one year. Then from Lawrence Memorial I went Boston.

Trina To the veterans administration, was this in Topeka?

Aurora No, no this was in Boston, Mass. So then from Lawrence Memorial I went to Boston.

Laurie How did you get out to Boston, why did you go to Boston?

Aurora My sister, my sister was after me to go and work some place where she was there, she was living in Boston

Trina She married there?

Aurora So she said if you come to Boston you can stay with us and work here.

Trina Lois, became what a first Ltg. in the medical court?

Aurora Yes, while I was in school she was in the army all the time. Thats where she married her husband. Then she went over seas, was there before D day evasion in England, she went to Italy, She couldn't work in Spain because of diplomatic relations, we didn't have diplomatic relations with Spain then, she was in France and Germany, she was there before D day, and she was during the evasion In fact she was telling me at one time plane was having trouble and

everybody was worried except Lois, she was worried but she wasn't showing it. And they told her she used to eat a lot, and to get busy, so she was eating away and everybody was worried, well if Lois isn't worried why should we worry, so they made it, and the plane was shot, and evidently the plane made it and landed safely, but they used to go in to battle grounds and pick up the wounded and bring them back, to the American bases. She was then in charge before her time was up because she was expecting.

Laurie So you started working in 45, you must of been about 29 years old?

Trina How old were you when you started working?

Aurora When I started working at the hospital, Well lets see I think I was 29.

Laurie Then did you keep on working one place after another place?

Aurora Yes, I was in Mexico two years, as a young kid, so I lost out there, and fortunately when I came back, it was before I made 1st and 2nd grade in one year. I was two years in Mexico, so I was behind, as far as grade school and in high school.

Laurie They didn't count the grades you were in school in Mexico for the grades here?

Aurora And being out of school for how many years, I went to Jr. College for one year, then I was out until 42, so I was about 29 when I started

Laurie So, what I'm trying to find out is when did you retire, did you work all of your life then, after you finished your training?

Trina Then you went where Lois is at, didn't you? When you moved over there where Lois was at, where did you work?

Aurora Well when I went to Boston, I had planed to go to Boston, then a girl I knew in Lawrence talked me into going to Hutchinson, she wanted me to go and stay there six months to keep a job opened for her, because she couldn't take the job right away. So I went there for six months, and did the work as trained for six months, then they wanted to keep me, they said we'll hire your friend and you can still stay here. It was with the nuns at Beverly Hospital In fact, I used to have a picture of one of the nuns, and while I was there in Hutchinson I dressed a little doll as one of the nuns, in habit, I took pictures of it, of the nun and the doll, I still have it. So then I stayed there six months, then I went to Boston.

Laurie And how long, ever since you graduated did you work in the hospital?

Aurora I was in Hutchinson six months, then went on to Boston. And I stayed there about a year and a half, I worked in a Drs. office, and this is why Xray came in handy, because every place that I went (Hospitals op Dr. Offices) Xray came in handy, so as soon as the doctor knew I did Xray there were no questions. Because he had an Xray machine and everything. So in the Doctors office I use to do simply laboratory, I would do them myself, the rest of the chemistry we would send out to a hospital. So I would do simply work, then I would do the Xray, because he had an Xray machine. In fact he got sick too and I even acted as boss.

Laurie After you worked in Boston, where did you work?

Trina Where did you go to after that?

Aurora So after that I came to ... When I was in Boston I started looking for a job in Kansas through the ASCP. The American Association of Clinical Physiologist. Through the ASCP I started looking for a job. So there was a doctor in Wichita that happened to know me so he find out I was looking for a job so he wanted to talk me into coming to work in Wichita. He knew me because he was the same phytologist when I was working in Hutchinson. So the only thing is when you come to Wichita I would like us to do tissues, so could you stop by at the medical

center and take a course in tissues, so I did, they let me here at KU Medical Center, I think I spent, I don't know how many months, 3 or 4 months learning how to cut tissues. So then I went to Wichita and started cutting tissues. I didn't stay there very long because I didn't like Dr. Murphy. He was looking mostly for a tissue technician, so I became a tissue technician, then he had somebody on the line from Canada. A man who was also a tissue technician. When that man was able or willing to come to Wichita as a tissue technician then he transferred me over to the laboratory.